Unit

Unit 1 – Overview of Two Systems

Unit 2 - Looking at Landscapes

Unit 3 – Project Planning and Visuals

Unit 4 – Design Fundamentals and Strategies

Unit 5 – Environmental Factors

- Contrast Rating Process

- Writing EAs

Environmental Factors

Pg 34

Objective

On completion of this unit, participants will use Environmental Considerations in the planning & design process for a proposed project to further reduce project's contrast to the characteristic environment.

Environmental factors either enhance your design technique or work against it.

Affect viewer's perspective for form, line, color and texture

Key Points to Remember Page 34

- Environment factors help you plan a project to minimize visual impacts
- EFs considered when assess visual impacts
- They are constantly changing (drive down road)
- We can't change them – but must analyze them (i.e., Can't say drive faster)
- Identify most critical location or time to judge
- Judge when viewed by most people.

Environmental Factors Page 34

- Viewing Distance
- Angle of Observation
- Length of Time Project in View
- Relative Size or Scale
- Season of Use
- Light Conditions
- Recovery Time
- Spatial Relationships
- Atmospheric Conditions
- Motion

Viewing Distance

How far is the viewer from the proposed project?

Viewing Distance

How far is the viewer from the proposed project?

Viewing Distance?

Viewing Distance

Viewing Distance

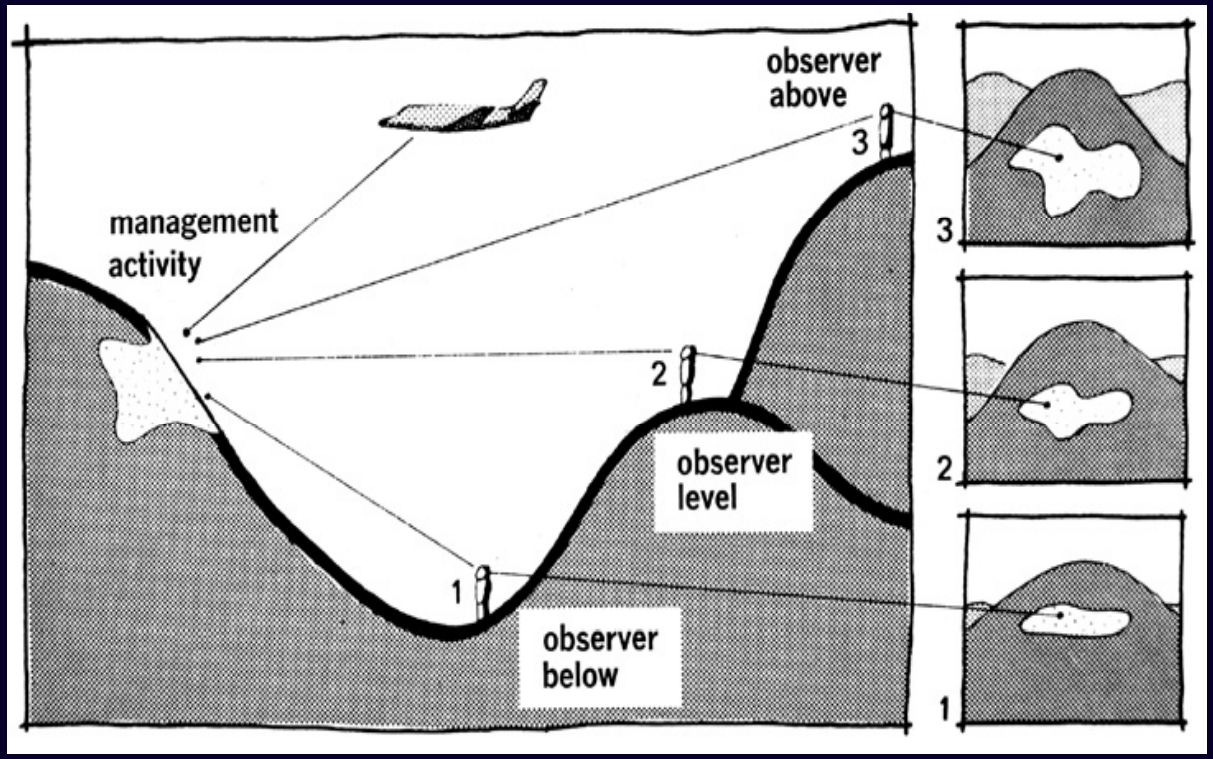
As viewing distance increases, the project becomes less visually dominant.

As viewing distance increases, color values decrease toward uniformity.

Angle of Observation

Pg 35

Are you looking up at the project, looking down at the project, or are you at the same level?



Apparent size of project is directly related to angle of observation.

Angle of Observation

Angle of Observation

Angle of Observation

Angle of Observation

Angle of Observation

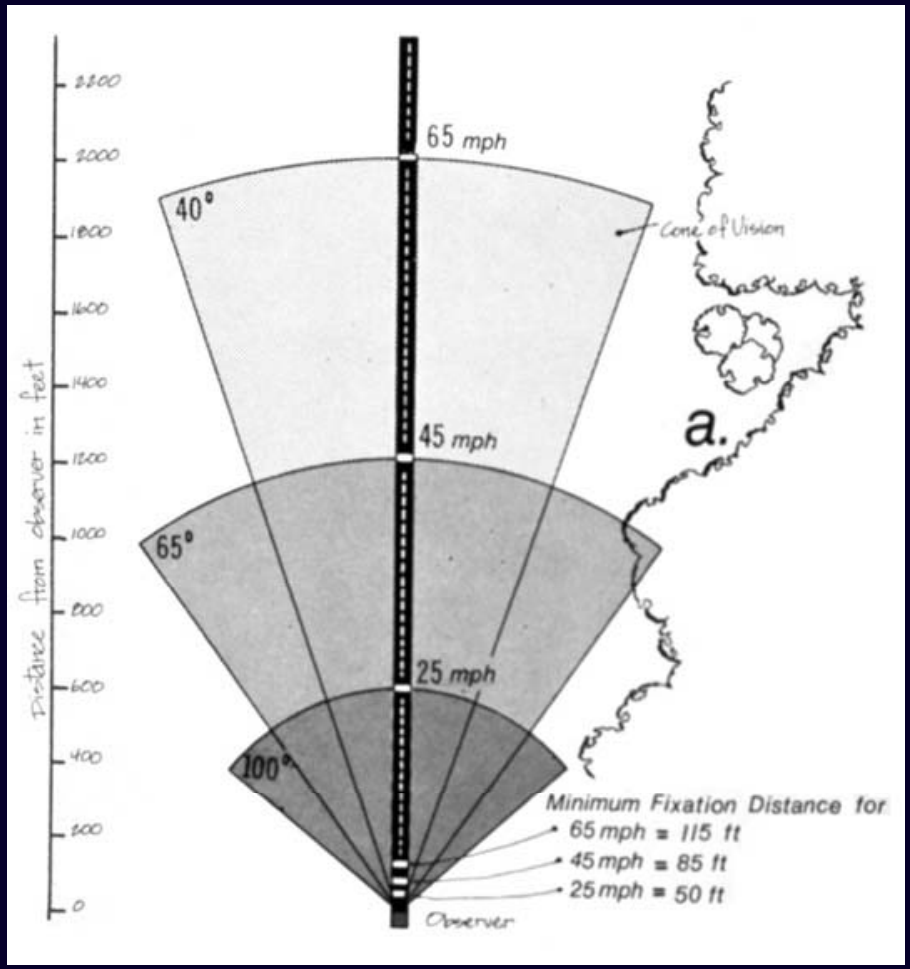
Angle of Observation

Length of Time in View

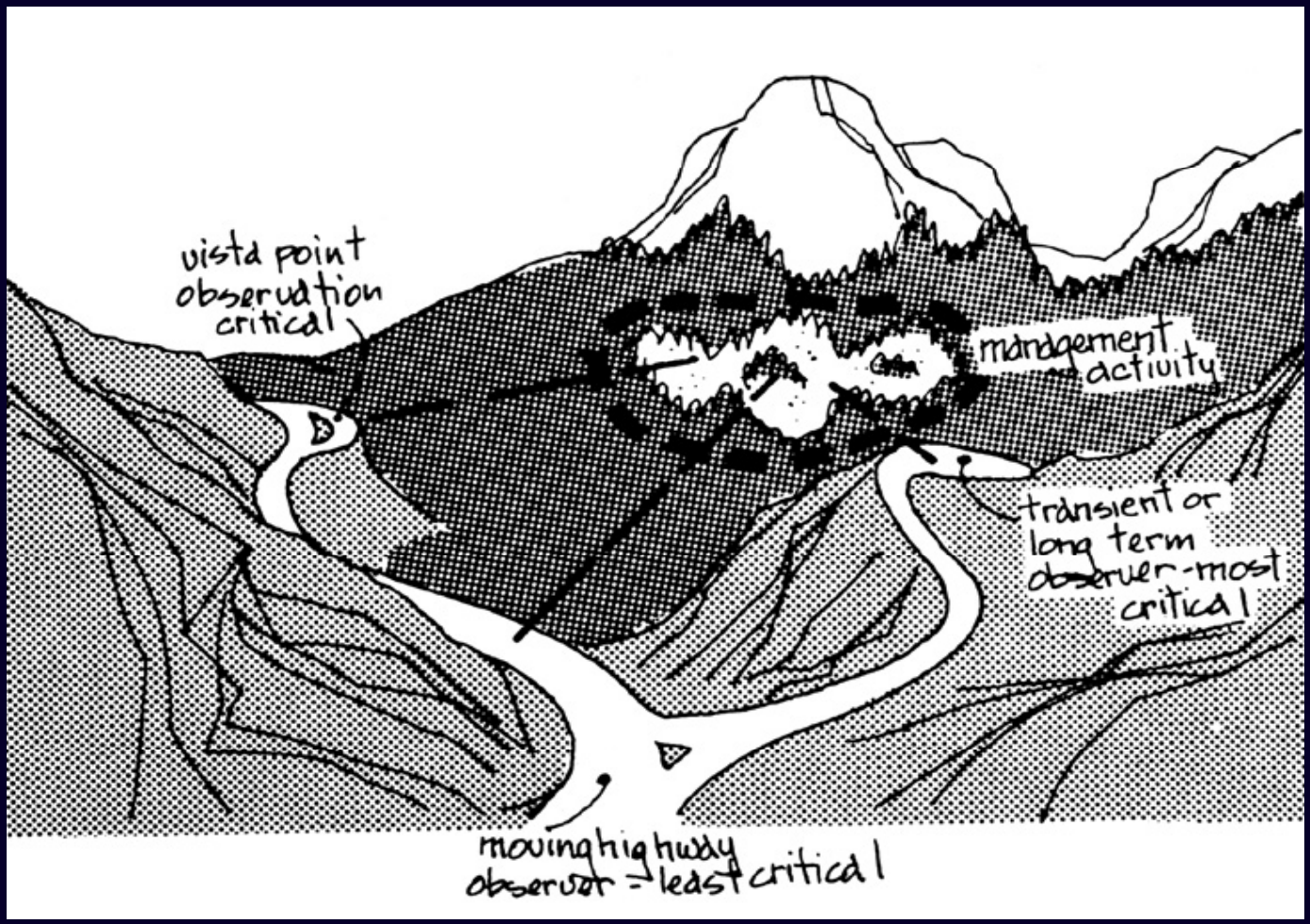
Pg 36

The longer a project is in view, the more significant the visual contrast.

Three/tenths of a second are needed for the eye to fixate.



Length of Time in View



Length of Time in View

Length of Time in View

Length of Time in View

Relative Size or Scale

Project is large relative to its surroundings.

Relative Size or Scale

Project is small relative to its surroundings

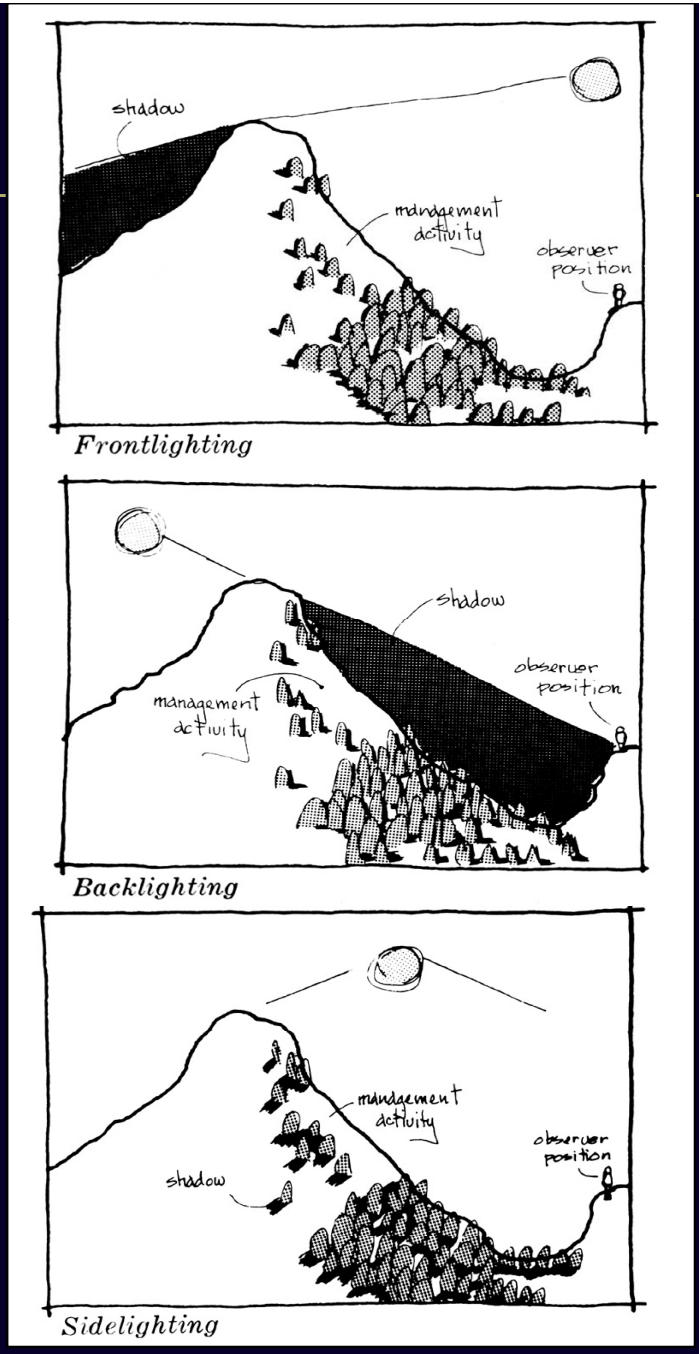
Season of Use

Season of Use

Light Conditions

The direction, angle and quality of light affects the color intensity, reflection, shadow, form, and texture of visual aspects of a landscape.

When should you take photos of landscape?



Light Conditions

Front Lighting: No Shadow Detail, Low Contrast, Flattened Quality

Light Conditions

Side Lighting: Creates Shadows, Higher Contrast, Creates Lines

Light Conditions

Side lighting: Creates Contrast, Accentuates Features

Light Conditions

Front Lighting

Light Conditions

Back Lighting

Recovery Time

The amount of time needed for successful revegetation/rehabilitation.

Normally takes several years.

Recovery time

Recovery Time

Spatial Relationships

Spatial qualities of a landscape are determined by the three-dimensional arrangement of objects and voids.

Arrangement of objects and voids in the landscape can be categorized by their spatial composition.

Spatial Relationships

The elevation and location of objects in the landscape relative to topography affect their prominence.

High and exposed positions are more prominent than low obscured positions.

High/exposed positions more prominent

Comm Sites/Wind What are others realty structures

Plain

Ridge Top

Side-Slope

Slope-Toe

Plateau-Bench

Valley Floor

Atmospheric Conditions

Atmospheric Conditions

Atmospheric Conditions

Atmospheric Conditions

Atmospheric Conditions

Motion

Motion draws attention to a project or activity.

Motion

Motion

UNIT 5

Assessment

An applicant requested a meeting with you and the field manager to discuss locating a wind farm with 20 turbines 160 feet tall on a prominent hill 3 miles outside of town.

What environmental factors affecting/mitigating the project would you discuss with your field manager prior to the meeting?

Summary for Environmental Factors

- Can help minimize visual impacts
- Should be considered when analyzing project
- Change constantly
- We can't change some of them
- Identify the most critical location and time to judge them
- Judge the most severe

How will can you analyze / apply environmental facts to do your job?

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